

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/068,473

Examiner

Ryan M Flandro

Applicant(s)

LE GALLO ET AL.

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's Request for Reconsideration submitted 2/13/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18,22,23,26 and 27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 April 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☒ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/13/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Anthony Cho on 5/17/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

- **Claim 1 has been amended by removing "a" from the beginning of line 2 of the claim.**
- **Claim 17 has been amended by removing "a" from the beginning of line 3 of the claim.**
- **Claim 18 has been amended to read:**

18. An assembly including:

a first, second and third components and first and second fixing members, the first, second and third components having respective first, second and third holes, the first hole being a threaded hole in which the first fixing member extends through the second hole and a first threaded portion of the first fixing members engaging the first hole to secure the first component to the second component, at least one of the fixing members extending through the third hole with a second threaded portion of the first fixing member engaging the second fixing member to secure the third component to the first component, and the first component being situated between the second and third

component, wherein the first threaded portion has a pitch which is different from the pitch of the first hole, and the second threaded portion has a pitch which is substantially equal to the pitch of the second fixing member.

- **Claims 22 and 23 have both been amended by removing both occurrences of the word "a" from line 2 of each claim.**

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- a. Claim 1. The prior art, which does not include Dobson as set forth in Applicant's request for reconsideration dated 2/13/04, fails to show a door panel lying between a window regulator and a regulator drive system, the door panel having a threaded hole therethrough which is engaged by a threaded fixing member which also extends through the window regulator. Claims 2-16, 26 and 27 depend therefrom.
- b. Claim 17. The prior art, either alone or in combination, fails to teach first, second and third components connected together as recited in the claim and the first fixing member having a first threaded portion having a diameter which is greater than the diameter of a second threaded portion.
- c. Claim 18. The prior art, either alone or in combination, fails to teach first, second and third components connected together as recited in the claim and the first fixing member having a first threaded portion having a pitch which is different from the pitch of the first hole of the first component.

Art Unit: 3679

d. Claim 22. The prior art, which does not include Dobson as set forth in Applicant's request for reconsideration dated 2/13/04, fails to show a method of assembling a door assembly comprising the steps of providing a door panel lying between a window regulator and a regulator drive system, the door panel having a threaded hole therethrough which is engaged by a threaded fixing member which also extends through the window regulator.

e. Claim 23. The prior art, which does not include Dobson as set forth in Applicant's request for reconsideration dated 2/13/04, fails to show a method of assembling a door assembly comprising the steps of providing a door panel lying between a window regulator and a regulator drive system, the door panel having a threaded hole therethrough which is engaged by a threaded fixing member which also extends through the window regulator.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Oath/Declaration

3. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because: it is not signed by all listed inventors.

4. Applicant is now required to submit a substitute declaration or oath to correct the deficiencies set forth above. The substitute oath or declaration must be filed within the THREE MONTH shortened statutory period set for reply in the "Notice of Allowability" (PTO-37). Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136. Failure to timely file the substitute declaration (or oath) will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application. The transmittal letter accompanying the declaration (or oath) should indicate the date of the "Notice of Allowance" (PTOL-85) and the application number in the upper right hand corner.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to door assemblies:

U.S. Patent 5,624,150 to Venier (shows a fixing member having threaded portions of different diameters extending through first, second and third components but, importantly, does not show a second fixing member as recited in the independent claims).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan M Flandro whose telephone number is (703) 305-6952.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:30pm Mon-Fri.

Art Unit: 3679

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Stodola can be reached on (703) 308-2686. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RMF



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